

12-14 East State Street  
(Commercial Building)  
Trenton  
Mercer County  
New Jersey

HABS No. NJ-963

HABS  
NJ,  
11-TRET,  
21-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
MID-ATLANTIC REGION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

HABS  
NJ,  
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21-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE New Jersey	COUNTY Mercer	TOWN OR VICINITY Trenton
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) 12-14 East State Street (Commercial Building)		HABS NO. NJ-963
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 12-14 East State Street (Commercial Building)		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1928 (Trenton Times, November 17, 1927)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Not known	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Built in 1928 and leased for Child's Restaurant, a national chain. Cost \$100,000. Local paper noted that it would give East State Street "a metropolitan appearance."		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Art Deco		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Steel frame structure with cut limestone facade; common brick sides and rear.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) See attached sketch.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Large, limestone slabs give a smooth finish to the building. The art Deco design influence is evident in the low relief carving of stylized trees spandrels between 2nd & 3rd floors, and in the spiral corner finials atop the semi-circular parapet.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) First floor fast-food restaurant typical of mid-1970's with wood-look plastic veneer on booths, counter, and trash cans. Plywood paneling on wall Ceiling fans with wicker-look applique on blades. Hanging baskets of plants		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES The first floor storefront was altered with each tenant change. Horn and Hardart added the sand-color textured porcelain enamel panels on exterior McDonald's added their own plastic sign and brushed metal "Kawneer" doors at in the storefront.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Fair condition. In use as McDonald's Restaurant until demolition October, 1987.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE The building contained chain restaurants for its entire life - first Childs; Horn and Hardart in the 1950's and '60's, and McDonald's in the 1970's and '80's.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Mercer County Deedbooks Trenton City Directories, 1925-1976. "Old Landmark Here Leased by Childs Company" Trenton Times", 11-17-27		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Janet W. Foster, ACROTERION, Historic Preservation Consultants, Morristown, NJ	DATE November 198	

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Floor Plan

